

22 November 1960

Dr. T. M. Sonneborn
Department of Zoology, Jordan Hall
Indiana University
Bloomington, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sonneborn:

I'm sorry that you will not be able to be present at the dinner for Dr. Muller. However, you will certainly be there with us in spirit. Your kind of voluntary offer to contribute something toward a gift for him is very much appreciated. Since other unsolicited contributions have been received it has been decided to present him with a token gift.

In case I did not include the address for this celebration in my last letter, it will be held at the Men's Faculty Club of Columbia University, located on 117th Street and Morningside Drive. The date of the dinner is December 28, 1960, and the time will be 6:30.

I also think you will be glad to know that several of your former students will be there.

I've received many enthusiastic responses so far about the planned volume of reprinted articles of Muller's. I hope that this will follow the pattern used by Lederberg in the preparation of his collection of papers on bacterial genetics. Do you think they can be photographed directly from the bound library journals if Dr. Muller no longer has available suitable copies of some of his own reprints? This would be more desirable than standard typewritten copies. Of course, if an IBM electric typewriter could be used to type such articles they would make excellent copy for this process. Otherwise, if it becomes necessary to duplicate typewritten copies, the finished volume may take on an uneven or shabby appearance which might disappoint Dr. Muller as well as those people looking forward to this presentation as a token of their high esteem for him.

There also should be some definite plans for the writing of a preface. After discussing this matter with some of the invited guests at the San Francisco meeting last month, I thought I should pass some of their recommendations on to you and Stan Zimmering. First, there should be two introductory prefaces, one written primarily by his former students and co-workers, and a second by himself. A large number of people would like to make such dedicatory statements and all should be welcomed as a part of the permanent record. Naturally these could be limited in size by being edited somewhat. Among other persons whose names have been mentioned as possible contributors are the following: Drs. Abrahamson, Altenburg, Auerbach, Benzer, Crow, Glass, Herskowitz, Lederberg, Oliver, Pontecorvo, as well as ourselves, and, of course, yourself.

During the dinner it would be very fitting to have a few short speeches to laud Muller. Since the idea for the dinner originated with a few close friends and his students these should be limited strictly to them, particularly Crow, Glass, Oliver, Abrahamson, Schalet and others who may be present and who wish to make such statements.

Please let me know any further opinions or information which you think should be passed on to those interested in this celebration since time is getting short.

Sincerely,

Elof Carlson

EAC:cp

cc: Abrahamson
Altenburg
Auerbach
Benzer
Crow
Glass
Herskowitz
Lederberg ✓
Oliver
Pontecorvo
Schalet
Zimmering

1991-1992